(xiii) Performance of the staff connected with train operation is being constantly monitored and those found deficient are sent for crash training.

(xiv) Periodical safety drives are conducted to inculcate safety consciousness among the staff.

Railway Projects

3536. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2007, given in Rajya Sabha on 12th March, 1999 and state:

(a) the updated data on the Railway projects, including those declared by Prime Minister in January, 2000;

(b) the total budgetary support committed by Government against each project and amount already sanctioned, showing percentage from the Railways; and

(c) the reasons for subsequent postponement of target set for various stages of implementation of Bogibeel bridge project, with indication of final commissioning schedule?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) Present status of all the projects mentioned in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2007 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 12th March, 1999 including the total anticipated cost, expenditure upto March, 2000 and outlay for 2000-2001 for each of the sanctioned projects is given in the Statement (*See* below).

The entire expenditure on these project will be met out of the budgetary support given to the Railways.

Prime Minsiter's Agenda for Socio-Economic Development in the North-East and Sikkim declared in Shillong in January, 2000 does not include Railway projects.

Survey for the Bogibeel bridge project has been completed by M/s Rail India Technical and Economic Services (RITES). This Report is under scrutiny. Work will be started once the survey report, including model studies, is examined in detail; alignment is fixed; land becomes available and final

clearance of CCEA is obtained. Implementation of the project will also depend up on the availability of resoruces. No target date for completion of the project has yet been fixed.

Statement

Sl. No.	Project	Cost	Expen-diture to March 2000	Budget Outlay 2000-01	Status
		(Amount in Crores of Rupees)			
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Bogibeel Bridge	1000.00	5.00	5.00	The detailed investigation & final location survey has been taken up by RITES CCEA's clearance in principle has also been obtained. As it is a rail-cum-road bridge, sharing of cost is to be tied up. RITES have completed the field survey, geo-technical investigations, seismic studies, studies in respect of hydraulic model, traffic, design of bridge, protection works etc. Work will be started once the survey report, including model studies is examined in detail, alignment is fixed, land becomes available and final clearance of CCEA is obtained. No target date for completion of the project has yet been fixed.
2	Jogighopa-Guwahati:	637.00	469.72	15.00	The Brahmaputra bridge and line from Jogighopa

1	2	3	4	5	6
	New Line				to Kamakhya has been completed and commissioned.
3	Kumarghat-Agartala: New Line	825.00	63.71	40.00	Land acquisition is in progress, Land acquisition papers for 1205 acres of land has been submitted to the State Govt. out of which 950 acres has been handed over so far. The work for construction of staff quarters at Agartala is in progress earthwork and minor bridges in a stretch of 40 km. from Agartala and 20 km. from Kumarghat is in progress. Since the line has now to be constructed as BG, a fresh final location survey has been taken up by RITES in the ghat sections and the report is expected by Aug-2000. Work will be started on the rest of the section after the alignment is finalised and land becomes available.
4	Rail head Byrnihat	...	...	...	Survey for linking at Byrnihat, Byrnihat in Meghalaya to the existing Guwahati-Lumding line has been completed. Final decision on the project will be taken after the scrutiny of the survey report is complete.

1	2	3	4	5	6
5	Gauge Conversion of Lumding-Dibrugarh with linked fingures including Makum-Dangori	634.83	660.72	10.00	The work of main line from Lumding to Dibrugarh, Tinsukhia-Lekhapani and branch lines from Furkating to Mariani and Simalguri-Moranhat has been completed. Gauge Con-version work on Makum-Dangori and Amguri-Tuli sections is in progess and will be complete by March 2001.

New rail line from Jajpur road to Jajpur town

3537. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received demand from the public and from a delegation of Orissa MPs for a new rail line in the South Eastern Railway from Jajpur Road to Jajpur Town, the district Headquarters and a place of religious pilgrimage and also to connect the upcoming sea ports of Orissa by rail;

(b) if so, details thereof and the action taken for preliminary or mandatory survey; and

(c) the details of Railways' development plans, both ongoing and upcoming, in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The demand was received from a delegation of Orissa M.Ps. for a new line from Jajpur-Keonjhar Road to Dhamara port *via* Navigaya (Jajpur) and Aradi. *Prima facie* examination indicated that the proposed line would be about 95 km. long and would cost not less than Rs. 285 crore. Owing to huge throwforward and acute constraint of resources for New Line projects, it has not been possible to consider this project for the present. However, recently, a proposal for construction of a private Railway Siding has been received for